

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 8, 11, 14 , 20, and 21 are pending, with claims 1, 20 and 21 being independent claims. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 9, which was indicated to be allowable, claims 20 and 21 also indicated to be allowable have been converted into independent form, and Claims 2, 3, 8, 11, and 14 depending directly or indirectly from Claim 1 have been amended.

FIG. 1 has been amended to correctly associate a lead line with one of cover disk elements. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The disclosure has been amended to eliminate the translator's note in paragraph [0067]. Withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 8 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by US 2002/0020598 A1 (Diemer). Claim 1 has been amended to recite the subject matter of claim 9 indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, Claim 1 is patentable over Diemer. Claims 2, 3, 8 and 11 depend from claim 1 and benefit from its allowability. Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of claims 1-3, 8 and 11 is respectfully requested.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Diemer. Claim 14 depends from Claim 1 and, thus, is patentable over Diemer. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 20 and 21 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims.

Based on all of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable action to this effect and early passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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